

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting Summary

January 24, 2013, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
MassDEP, One Winter Street, Boston, MA

Introductions and MassDEP Updates

John Fischer of MassDEP provided several updates on MassDEP program and policy development:

- **Organics Action Plan:** MassDEP continues to proceed with implementation of the Organics Action Plan, including developing the draft waste ban regulations to go out for public comment. MassDEP continues to be on track with the planned schedule for developing the waste ban, which calls for issuing draft regulations by the end of first quarter 2013, promulgating regulations by the end of summer 2013, and having an effective date in summer 2014.
- **Organics Subcommittee:** The next meeting of the Organics Subcommittee is not scheduled yet. However, MassDEP expects to resume those meetings in late winter/early spring, with several meetings focused on elements of the Organics Action Plan beyond the proposed waste ban development.
- **Solid Waste Master Plan Comment Period:** This comment period was extended from February 15, 2013 to March 1, 2013. Comments should be sent to dep.swm@state.ma.us or to John Fischer, MassDEP, One Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108.
- **MassRecycle Annual Conference:** This event is scheduled for March 19, 2013 in Boxborough. For more information, see www.massrecycle.org.

Solid Waste and Asbestos Regulatory Reform Draft Regulations

Paul Emond of MassDEP provided a presentation on proposed solid waste regulatory reform draft regulations and Sarah Weinstein of MassDEP gave a presentation on asbestos regulatory reform draft regulations. These presentations are posted on the MassDEP web site at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/newregs.htm>. Following the meeting, the public comment period for these draft regulations was extended from February 8, 2013 to February 25, 2013.

Participants raised several questions and comments, including:

Q: Who is responsible for determining what certifications are required?

A: This is the responsibility of the facility owner and operator.

Q: Will the certification process be electronic?

A: These will not be submitted electronically initially, but MassDEP hopes to establish an electronic submittal process in the future.

Q: Do facilities have to file a new certification for a post-closure use if they already have an existing approval?

A: No, their existing approval would not be affected and they could continue to operate under that approval.

2012 Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grants

Brooke Nash of MassDEP provided a presentation on the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) and SMRP Municipal Grants that MassDEP awarded for 2012. Please note that a corrected version of the presentation that includes the commercial waste reduction assistance funding has been posted on the MassDEP web site.

A participant requested more information on the RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts program and requested a presentation on projects conducted by the RecyclingWorks program. For a summary of the RecyclingWorks program, please see <http://www.recyclingworksma.com/about-recyclingworks/>. John Fischer of MassDEP proposed that MassDEP provide an update on the RecyclingWorks program after the fiscal year 2013 work plan (which ends June 30, 2013) has been completed and program results are available.

Green Restaurant Association Certification Program

Becky Malamut of the Green Restaurant Association (GRA) described the GRA's certification program for green restaurants, which includes a set of waste reduction, recycling, and composting actions. Due to technical difficulties, the power point presentation was not available at the meeting, but it is now posted on the MassDEP SWAC web page at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/public/committee/dswmpu02.htm>. More information on the GRA certification program, including a list of certified restaurants in the Boston area, is available on the GRA web site at www.dinegreen.com.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee is scheduled for April 25, 2013 at MassDEP's Boston office.